GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:412
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
POOR GROWTH IN TOURISM SECTOR
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government spends only one per cent of GDP to promote tourism industry;

(b) if so, whether this is lowest in the World;

(c) whether this factor has contributed for poor growth in tourism sector; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 412 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12-8-2002 REGARDING POOR GROWTH IN TOURISM SECTOR

(a): The budget of the Central and State Governments on plan schemes for thedevelopment of tourism during the 9th Five Year Plan period has been around 0.026 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

(b): Comparable information in respect of other countries is not readily available.

(c): Government expenditure is not the only factor responsible for tourism development. The present policy on tourism is that it should be private sector driven with Government working as a proactive facilitator and catalyst. Government provides various tax concessions and incentives to the private sector, which helps in tourism development. As a result of the combined efforts of both the Government and the private sector, there has been positive growth in foreign tourist arrivals, foreign exchange earnings and domestic tourist visits during the last five years.

(d): An allocation of Rs.225 crores has been made for the plan schemes in the year2002-03 which is 50 per cent more than the allocation made for the previous year. The Planning Commission has indicated an allocation of Rs.2900 crores for the Tenth Plan as against Rs.595 crores actually provided during the Ninth Plan.